



AUGUST-2006

## GRANT COUNTY FSA NEWS

### Grant County FSA

2145 Basin St. SW STE A  
Ephrata, Wa. 98823  
Phone: (509) 754-2463 ext. 2  
Fax: (509) 754-4705

### Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

### County Committee

Mike Edwards, Chairman  
John Morris, V-Chairman  
Richard Reffett, Member  
Angela Pixton, Advisor

### Farm Program Staff

Greg Anderson, CED  
Judi Kanoff, PT  
Marilyn Littleton, PT  
Katie Markham, PT  
Edna Thomas, PT

### Farm Loan Staff

Everett Purrington, FLM  
Nancy Seger, FLO  
Libby Anderson, FLO  
Barb Williams, FLT

### Next COC Meeting

August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006-8:30 AM

### Important Dates:

**August 31- Deadline for purchasing 2007 NAP coverage on fall planted vegetable seed crops.**

**September 30- Deadline for purchasing 2007 NAP coverage on alfalfa hay.**

**September 30- Deadline for enrolling DCP contracts for 2006 crop year.**

PLEASE KEEP OUR OFFICE  
UP TO DATE ON ANY  
CHANGES MADE TO YOUR  
FARM OPERATION. THIS  
INCLUDES LAND CHANGES,  
OPERATOR/OWNER  
CHANGES, AND ANY  
UPDATES TO BANK  
ACCOUNT INFORMATION.  
THANK YOU!!

### NAP DEADLINES APPROACH:

**Producers with fall planted vegetable seed crops for harvest in 2007 have until August 31, 2006 to purchase coverage under the Non-Insured Assistance Program, also known as NAP.** Cost of this coverage is \$100 per crop, not to exceed \$300 per producer, per county.

**Producers with alfalfa hay in 2007 have until September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2006 to purchase NAP coverage.** As a reminder, alfalfa hay producers receiving quality loss payments under the 2004 Crop Disaster Program are required to purchase two years of NAP coverage on all alfalfa acreage, for crop years 2006 and 2007. Everyone met the 2006 linkage requirements, now we need to address the requirements for the 2007 crop year.

**Orchardists with non-insurable acreage (orchards not yet producing the minimum of 250 boxes/acre) have until November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 to purchase NAP coverage.** Orchardists with uninsured acreage that received crop disaster payments are also reminded of the requirement to purchase “buy-up” crop insurance for a two year period, which applies to the 2006 and 2007 crop years. The November 20<sup>th</sup> deadline for purchasing this coverage also applies.

Reminder letters and applications for 2007 NAP coverage were prepared and recently sent out by this office to all 2006 vegetable seed growers, hay growers, and a limited number of producers with non-insurable orchards that had NAP coverage in 2006. If you will not be farming, or if you will not be growing these crops in 2007, the above requirements do not apply. If you are, please sign and date the application where highlighted, and return it with your payment by the above mentioned deadlines. As always, if you have any questions concerning your linkage requirements or on the NAP program itself, please contact the county office at your earliest convenience.

### CRP WEED CONTROL AND SEEDING INFO:

Letters have been sent to producers with CRP acreages accepted in signup #26 & #29 advising them of the requirement to perform weed control measures in the form of a mowing operation that will eliminate the major infestations of mustard presently on the acreage. **As a reminder, this mowing operation needs to be done as soon as time permits you.** Follow up visits will be performed this fall to ensure compliance. Please do your part to keep this weed from blowing and spreading across county roads and on to your neighbor's property. It is the “good neighbor” thing to do.

Another point to make about CRP is **the importance of preparing a weed free seed bed prior to seeding CRP grass mixes.** This office cannot stress enough the importance of having a properly prepared seedbed that will provide newly seeded grass mixes the best chance of survival. Please do your part to ensure compliance with this very important element of seeding CRP grass. Any questions concerning the seeding of CRP can be directed to either this office or the guys next door in NRCS.

### NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED FOR FSA COMMITTEE:

FSA has been accepting nominations for county committee membership from June 15 through August 1, 2006. The Grant County FSA Committee position open is for Local Administrative Area #1, which encompasses most of the dry-land regions in the northern portion of the county.

It is our pleasure to announce that we have received two eligible nominations from the following producers:

**Mike Edwards:** Mike and his family raise wheat and cattle in the Hartline area, and

**William James:** Bill and his family have CRP, and raise wheat primarily in the Wilson Creek area.

We extend our thanks to the above gentlemen for agreeing to serve on the County Committee if elected. Ballots will be mailed out beginning in November.

**2006 GRAIN LOANS AND LDP INFO:**

With wheat harvest in full swing, and the beginning of corn harvest in the future, it is critical that producers are made aware of their options under the 2006 Price Support program.

**Price support loans** can be made on eligible commodities stored in commercial warehouses or placed in farm storage. These loans can be made regardless if you're participating in the DCP program or not. Commodity loans will mature in 9 months following the month the loan is actually disbursed, and can be paid off at anytime during this period. Interest rates are normally lower than commercial lending institutions, with the current interest rate being 6.125% for loans disbursed in the month of August.

Warehouse loans require receipts for any commodity placed under loan that will be stored in a commercial warehouse. Warehouse stored grain must be in an approved UGSA warehouse. Storage must be provided for or paid from the delivery date through loan maturity. If not, deductions will be withheld from loan proceeds.

Farm stored loans will be issued based on 100% of either the producer's estimated production in farm storage, or by requesting and paying for a measurement service performed by this office to determine total quantity in farm storage. Producers are responsible to ensure that loan commodities remain in good quality throughout the loan period.

Lien searches will be performed on all loan requests and prior to loan disbursement. If crop liens are in place, lien waivers will be required from the secured parties. Loan service fees apply to all loans, and equal \$45 per loan plus \$3 for each bin or warehouse receipt in excess of one. Price support loans can be a very helpful tool to provide short term capital to use at the producer's discretion, while allowing the assessment of market conditions during the loan period. 2006 crop year loan rates for Grant County are as follows:

White wheat:	\$2.95 bu.	Grain corn:	\$2.36 bu. or \$84.25 ton
Hard red spring:	\$3.20 bu.	Barley:	\$2.13 bu. or \$88.75 ton
Hard red winter:	\$3.28 bu.	Oats:	\$1.28 bu. or \$80.00 ton

Loan repayment options include paying the principal and accrued interest off at anytime during the loan period with cash, or by taking advantage of the market gain option if the posted county price is lower than the county loan rate, which essentially works the same as obtaining an LDP. The third option available is to forfeit the loan commodity at maturity to Commodity Credit Corporation.

**Loan deficiency payments**, or LDP's, become available when the daily posted county prices fall below the county loan rate for that particular commodity. Currently, the only commodity with a LDP rate in effect is dry peas, which is at \$2.24/cwt. The LDP rate for dry peas is updated every Friday.

Producers must request an LDP prior to losing beneficial interest in the commodity. To do this, page 1 of form CCC-633EZ must be completed and signed by the producer prior to selling the commodity and passing title. Most of you have already done this when you filed your 2006 acreage report with this office. Page 2 of this same form needs to be completed when the actual request for an LDP is filed. The LDP rate will be the rate in effect on the day the request is made, or the day title passed to the commodity buyer.

Producers can contact this office for daily LDP rates, or by visiting the FSA website at [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov). Producers can also apply for LDP's over the internet. A level 2 authorization is needed to do this, and can be obtained by visiting this office.